

• New Machines and Gadgets •

For addresses where you can get more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N ST., Washington 5, D. C. and ask for Gadget Bulletin 611. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⚙️ **REFLECTING GLOVE** for the automobile driver, recently patented, aids following drivers to see hand signals at night. It is of conventional appearance and made of conventional materials but has a coating on the rear side that is highly reflective and completely flexible.

Science News Letter, March 1, 1952

⚙️ **TIE CASE**, designed to keep neckties pressed, clean and free from dust while traveling, has two panel-rack tie carriers, one fitting in the bottom of the case, the other in the cover. Each holds four ties by means of slots into which the neckband portions are placed.

Science News Letter, March 1, 1952

⚙️ **SOUND-ABSORBING BAFFLES**, designed to hang from wires stretched near the ceiling in a factory, are made of glass fiber enclosed in a plastic film. They are intended for rooms where standard acoustic ceiling is difficult to install because of ceiling fixtures.

Science News Letter, March 1, 1952

⚙️ **LOUDSPEAKER, EMPLOYING** an electronic principle, has no conventional diaphragm but utilizes a platinum electrode heated to a high temperature. The heated electrode produces an ionic cloud which responds to changes in the strength of a high frequency electric field to produce sound waves.

Science News Letter, March 1, 1952

⚙️ **ELECTRONIC STETHOSCOPE** for the doctor, shown in the photograph, is especially useful when examining patients whose chest sounds are difficult to hear.

Do You Know?

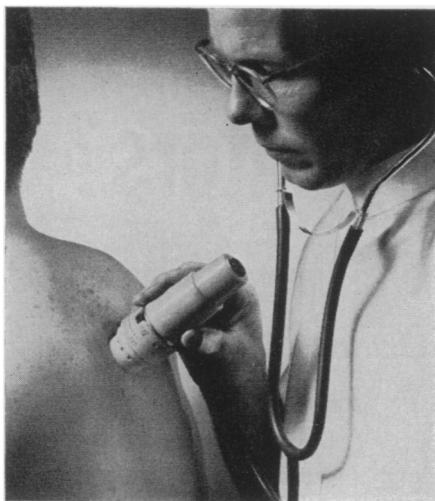
U. S. population has increased roughly sixfold in one century.

About 65% to 70% of the dry weight of a plant consists of starch; the rest of it consists of mineral elements.

Nine men were needed to unpack a 19-foot, 100-pound, squirming *Regal Python* at the Philadelphia Zoological Garden.

The decay of floor beams in houses without basements but with a crawl space between floor and the earth can be prevented by covering the soil under the floor with roofing paper.

Rubies and sapphires are manufactured in large quantities from aluminum oxide.



This pocket-size instrument, containing both microphone and speaker, is powered by flashlight batteries and is attachable to the regular binaurals.

Science News Letter, March 1, 1952

⚙️ **PROTECTIVE COATING** for tank trailers used to transport fuming nitric acid is a new fluorinated plastic resin applied as a lacquer that is not injured by spilling acid. Because of its resistance to acid, heat and moisture, it is an ideal coating for electrical equipment.

Science News Letter, March 1, 1952

⚙️ **SAND PACKER** for treating foundation materials for roads and airports, to replace heavy rollers now used, is called a vibration compactor and weighs only 6.6 tons. Forces applied at the surface by a vibrating steel plate shake the foundation sand and move its constituent particles together.

Science News Letter, March 1, 1952

⚙️ **ROLL-UP DOORS** for garages and shops, which roll up like a curtain, are long-used types with interlocking steel slats, now made with heavy-duty transparent plastic slats replacing some of the steel slats. The transparent slats permit daylight to enter and a person on the inside to look out.

Science News Letter, March 1, 1952

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